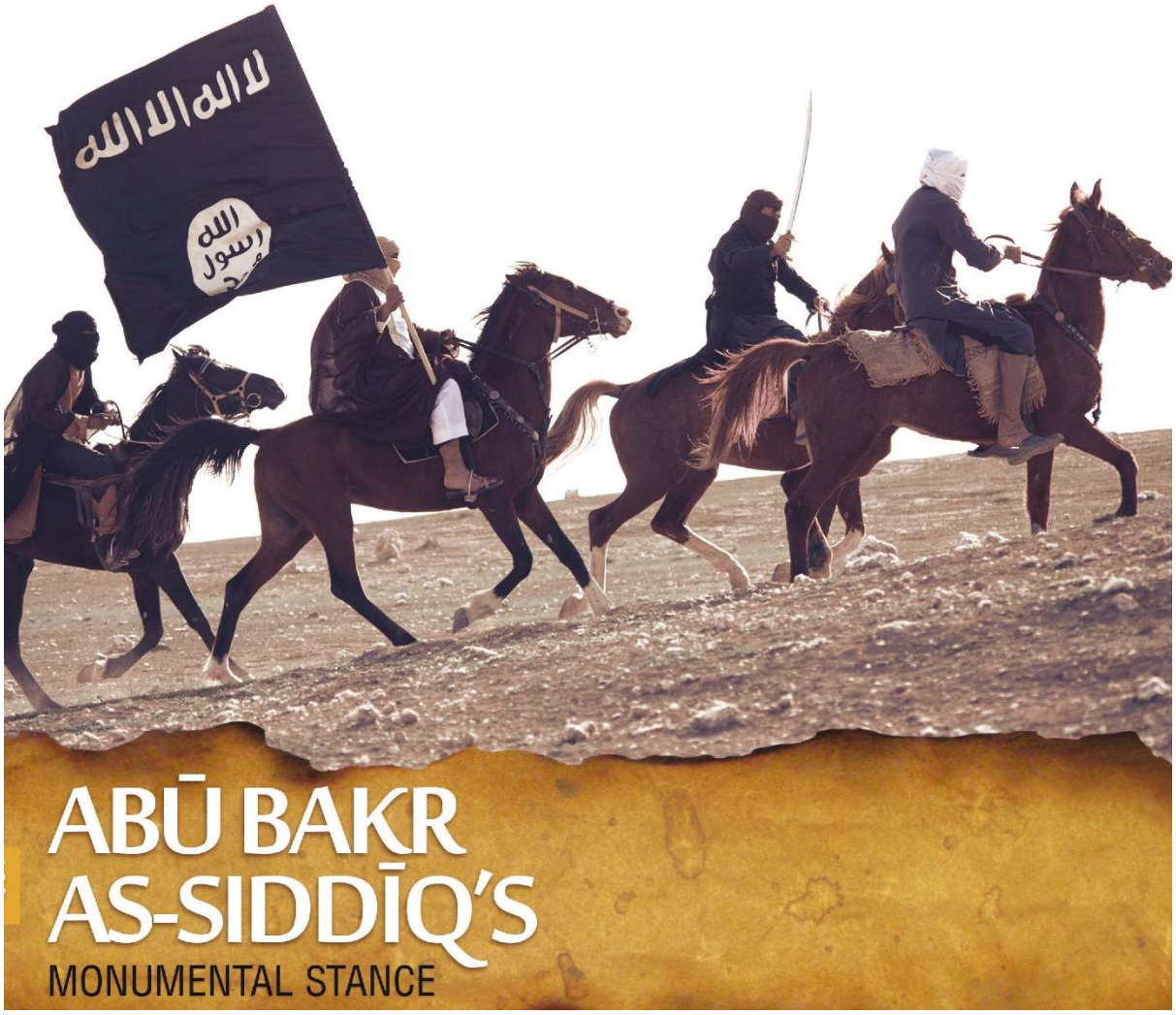

BATTLE OF APOSTASY

ABU BAKR AS SIDDIQ: MONUMENTAL STANCE

Umar Ibn Al Khattab (رضي الله عنه) said,

"BY HE IN WHOSE HAND IS MY SOUL, IF ABŪ BAKR HAD OBEYED US, WE WOULD HAVE COMMITTED KUFR IN A SINGLE MORNING, AND THAT WAS WHEN THEY ASKED HIM TO GO EASY CONCERNING ZAKĀH [BY NOT WAGING WAR AGAINST THE APOSTATES OVER IT], BUT HE REFUSED.

He (Abu Bakr) said,

'IF THEY WERE TO WITHHOLD FROM ME A SHORT ROPE, I WOULD WAGE JIHĀD AGAINST THEM OVER IT'"
[Musannaf Ibn Abī Shaybah]

He (Umar Ibn Al Khattab) also said,

“WE ALMOST COMMITTED KUFR IN A SINGLE MORNING IF NOT THAT ALLAH SAVED US THROUGH ABŪ BAKR AS-SIDDĪQ (رضي الله عنه)”
[Al Ibānah Al Kubrā]

Abū Raja’ Al Utāridī said,

“I ENTERED AL-MADĪNAH AND SAW THE PEOPLE GATHERED AROUND A MAN KISSING THE HEAD OF ANOTHER WHILE THE KISSER WAS SAYING, ‘MAY I BE KILLED IN YOUR DEFENSE! IF NOT FOR YOU, WE WOULD HAVE BEEN RUINED.’

SO, I ASKED, ‘WHO IS THE KISSER AND WHO IS THE ONE BEING KISSED?’

THEY SAID,

‘THAT IS UMAR KISSING ABŪ BAKR’S HEAD FOR HIS WAR AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF APOSTASY WHO RESISTED ZAKĀH”
[Tārīkh Dimashq]

Abū Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) said,

“BY HE OTHER THAN WHOM THERE IS NO GOD, IF ABŪ BAKR HAD NOT BEEN APPOINTED KHALĪFAH, ALLAH WOULD NOT BE WORSHIPPED ON THE EARTH!”

HE REPEATED THIS THREE TIMES
[Al-I’tiqād – al-Bayhaqī]

Wakī’ Ibn Al Jarrāh (رحيم الله) said,

“IF NOT FOR ABŪ BAKR, ISLAM WOULD HAVE PERISHED”
[Al- Ibānah Al-Kubrā]

Hasan Al Basrī (رحيم الله) said,

“THE ARABS APOSTATIZED, SO ABŪ BAKR CONSULTED THE PEOPLE CONCERNING THEM. THEY ALL COUNSELED HIM TO ACCEPT PRAYER FROM THEM AND LEAVE ZAKĀH UP TO THEM.

So Abū Bakr’s (رضي الله عنه) said,

‘BY ALLAH, IF THEY WERE TO WITHHOLD A SHORT ROPE THAT THEY USED TO GIVE RASŪLULLĀH (صلى الله عليه و سلم), I WOULD WAGE JIHĀD AGAINST THEM.’

IF NOT FOR WHAT ABŪ BAKR HAD DONE, THE PEOPLE WOULD HAVE PRACTICED ILHĀD (HERESY) CONCERNING ZAKĀH UNTIL RESURRECTION DAY”
[Tārīkh Dimashq]

Umar (رضي الله عنه) said,

“BY ALLAH, A DAY OR NIGHT OF ABŪ BAKR’S (رضي الله عنه) IS BETTER THAN ‘UMAR AND THE FAMILY OF UMAR SINCE THEY WERE BORN. AS FOR THE DAY THEN IT WAS THE DAY THAT RASŪLULLĀH (صلى الله عليه و سلم) PASSED AWAY AND THOSE WHO APOSTATIZED FROM THE ARABS APOSTATIZED AND SAID,

‘WE WILL PRAY BUT NOT GIVE ZAKĀH NOR COLLECT IT. SO I CAME TO HIM NEVER NEGLECTING TO ADVISE HIM.

I (Umar Ibn Al Khattab) Said,

‘O KHALĪFAH OF RASŪLULLĀH, ATTRACT THE PEOPLE AND BE SOFT WITH THEM, FOR IT IS AS IF THEY’VE BEEN DESERTED.’

So Abū Bakr’s (رضي الله عنه) said,

‘I HAD HOPED FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND YOU CAME WITH YOUR FORSAKING? ARE YOU SEVERE IN JĀHILIYYAH AND COWARDLY IN ISLAM? WITH WHAT MAY I ATTRACT THEM? WITH CONTRIVED POETRY OR FABRICATED SORCERY? THAT CAN NEVER BE!

THE PROPHET (صلى الله عليه و سلم) PASSED AWAY, THE REVELATION HAS CEASED, AND THE RELIGION HAS BEEN COMPLETED. SHALL IT DECREASE WHILE I AM STILL ALIVE! BY ALLAH, I WILL WAGE JIHĀD AGAINST THEM AS LONG AS MY HAND CAN STILL HOLD THE SWORD, EVEN IF THEY ONLY WITHHOLD FROM ME A SHORT ROPE!’

SO, I SAW HIM TO BE WISER AND FIRMER THAN ME IN THIS. HE DISCIPLINED THE PEOPLE OVER MATTERS, MAKING THEIR HARDSHIPS EASIER FOR ME TO DEAL WITH WHEN I WAS GIVEN AUTHORITY OVER THEM. THIS WAS HIS DAY”
[Musnad al-Fārūq – Ibn Kathīr; Jāmi’ al-Usūl – Ibnul-Athīr]

Abū Hurayrah (رضي الله عنه) said,

“WHEN RASŪLULLĀH (صلى الله عليه و سلم) PASSED AWAY, ABŪ BAKR WAS APPOINTED KHALĪFAH AFTER HIM, AND THE ARABS APOSTATIZED,

Umar (رضي الله عنه) said,

‘HOW CAN YOU FIGHT THE PEOPLE WHEN RASŪLULLĀH (صلى الله عليه و سلم) HAS SAID,

‘I WAS ORDERED TO FIGHT THE PEOPLE UNTIL THEY SAY, ‘THERE IS NO GOD BUT ALLAH.’ SO, WHOEVER SAYS IT, THEN HIS WEALTH AND BLOOD IS SAVED FROM ME EXCEPT BY ITS DUE RIGHT, AND THEIR JUDGMENT IS FOR ALLAH.”

Abū Bakr (رضي الله عنه) said,

‘BY ALLAH, I WILL FIGHT THOSE WHO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN PRAYER AND ZAKĀH, FOR ZAKĀH IS FROM THE RIGHT DUE UPON WEALTH. BY ALLAH, IF THEY WERE TO RESIST GIVING ME A SHORT ROPE THAT THEY USED TO GIVE TO RASŪLULLĀH (صلى الله عليه و سلم), I WOULD FIGHT THEM OVER THEIR RESISTANCE TO GIVING IT.’

Umar (رضي الله عنه) said,

‘BY ALLAH, AS SOON AS I SAW THAT ALLAH OPENED ABŪ BAKR’S HEART (RADIYALLĀHU ‘ANH) TOWARDS WAR, I KNEW IT TO BE THE TRUTH’”
[Al-Bukhārī and Muslim]